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Message Text

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PAGE 01 FREETO 01552 170805Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 PC-01 /069 W
----------171113Z 035166 /20
R 161643Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5372
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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LONDON FOR SEITZ

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PINS, PINT, SL
SUBJ: SECURITY SITUATION IN BO DISTRICT

REF: FREETOWN 1519

1. DURING VISIT TO BO DISTRICT MAY 13, DEPUTY BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER AND AMERICAN EMBOFF FOUND AREA TO BE CALM AND PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY FOR ELECTION ON MAY 20. NO ISU AND ONLY A FEW UNARMED SOLDIERS WERE IN EVIDENCE. A LARGE PART OF THE POPULATION OF BO TOWN, PERHAPS 40 PERCENT, HAS DEPARTED. SOME HOUSES IN THE TOWN WERE BURNED AND A FEW SMALL SHOPS DESTROYED DURING WEEK OF MAY 2-6, 1977.

2. MOST RESIDENTS OF AREA SEEM TO BE PREPARED FOR RENEWAL OF
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VIOLENCE BEFORE MAY 20 ELECTION. HOWEVER, SENIOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY IN PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE DID NOT THINK THAT VIOLENCE WOULD BE AS BAD AS BEFORE. EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH AMCITS IN BO AND THREE PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS HAVE BEEN TEMPORARILY RELOCATED. THE FAMILIES OF A NUMBER OF AMERICAN, BRITISH, AND OTHER EXPATRIATES RESIDING IN BO VOLUNTARILY DECIDED TO RELOCATE TO

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FREETOWN UNTIL AFTER THE MAY 20 ELECTIONS.

3. A FRONT PAGE COMMENT IN THE MAY 15 "SUNDAY WE YONE" CLAIMED THE SITUATION IN BO IS QTE NOT CONDUCIVE TO FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS UNQTE AND SUGGESTED THAT THE ELECTIONS BE FURTHER SUSPENDED. SLBS RADIO NEWS BROADCASTS MAY 15 AND 16 HAVE INCLUDED APPEAL TO OFFICIALS AND PEOPLE OF BO DISTRICT TO CONDUCT THEMSELVES IN A LAW-ABIDING MANNER, AND PREPARATIONS ARE SAID TO BE GOING AHEAD FOR ELECTIONS.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: DESPITE OFFICIAL PREPARATIONS FOR FORTH COMING ELECTIONS IN BO DISTRICT, THERE IS MOUNTING SPECULA-
TION THE THE "WE YONE" ARTICLE SIGNIFIES PRESIDENT'S INTENT
TO CANCEL ELECTIONS
INDEFINITELY.
SAMUELS

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, PROVINCE, ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977FREETO01552
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770174-1047
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From: FREETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770554/aaaabulj.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 FREETOWN 1519
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2509368
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY SITUATION IN BO DISTRICT
TAGS: PINS, PINT, SL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6a294693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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